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SOURCE Polish newspaper as indicated. (Information requested.)

CZECH-SOVIET TRADE EXTENSIVE

CZECHOSLOVAK-SOVIET TRADE RELATIONS -- Rzeczpospolita, No 51, 21 Feb 49

The trade agreement between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union concluded in autumn 1948 enables Czechoslovakia to export goods valued at 9 billion crowns. During the same period of the agreement, imports from the Soviet Union would amount to 8.7 billion crowns.

Industrial raw materials will constitute 57 percent of the imports, agricultural products 40 percent, and finished products 3 percent. On the other hand, exports to the USSR will consist of products of the metallurgical and other heavy industries, 23 percent; processed agricultural products, 5 percent; and manufactured articles, mostly commodities of everyday use, 72 percent.

During the first several months of 1949 Czechoslovakia will receive from the USSR 300,000 tons of wheat, 25,000 tons of animal fats, 25,000 tons of meat, 20,000 tons of barley, 15,000 tons of oil seed for the production of vegetable oils, and sizable supplies of peas, beans, flax, and hemp.

Among imports from the USSR for Czechoslovak industry, the most important items are 300,000 tons of iron ore and 35,000 tons of cotton. In addition, in 1949 the USSR will supply Czechoslovakia with manganese and chrome ore, phosphates, petroleum, wool, pig iron, nonferrous metal, lead, nickel, sulfur, ball bearings, artificial fertilizer, wood, and wood products.

Czechoslovakia will receive from the Soviet Union in 1949 raw materials valued at 2.5 billion crowns, which is as much as the total import value of raw materials in 1948. Two billion of this could not have been purchased except by foreign drafts (dollars).

Among Czechoslovak exports to the USSR, the most important item is luxury footwear valued at 1,300,000,000 crowns, followed by rubber footwear and other products of the rubber industry valued at 690 million crowns, 1,500 tons of cigarette papers, 800 tons of parchment paper, cotton fabrics

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worth 750 million crowns, wool fabrics, silk fabrics, glass, porcelain, writing materials, etc. Products of heavy industry, valued at 1.2 billion crowns, will consist mainly of locomotives, tractors, dredges, turbines, and equipment for electric power plants.

**SOVIET FOOD FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA** -- Ruzsopolska, No 50, 20 Feb 49

According to agreement, Czechoslovakia has received from the USSR 50,000 tons of flour, 5,000 tons of meat, and 2,000 tons of butter. Last to arrive in Prague was a 30,000-kilogram shipment of tea.

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA EXPORTS BICYCLES** -- Ruzsopolska, No 42, 11 Feb 49

In 1948, Czechoslovakia exported the greater part of her bicycle production to Palestine, Iran, India, and Egypt. Orders for bicycles have also been received from Brazil and Argentina. Certain bicycle parts are exported to South Africa.

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